1-26 Cancelled.

27. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having an executable application recorded thereon, the executable application comprising a program, one or more encrypted sub-routines, and a decryption routine, wherein the program is executed in response to execution of the executable ~~application,~~ application by a computer system, the program requires access to the sub-routines during execution, and the decryption routine is operable to detect whether a required sub-routine is already available within the computer system, to cause the program to use the sub-routine within the computer system if already available, and to decrypt the required encrypted ~~sub-routines~~ sub-routine into an executable ~~form,~~ form if the sub-routine is not already available within the computer system, at least when access to the ~~sub-routines~~ sub-routine is required by the program.

28. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein the decryption routine is executed whenever the program is ~~executed so as to recreate the sub-routines in executable form on each occasion.~~ executed.

29. The computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein the decryption routine makes an entry in an address table to identify the location of a sub-routine decrypted by the decryption routine, the address table being accessible by the program for locating sub-routines for access when required.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim ~~30,~~ 27, wherein the decryption routine is operable to incorporate within the address table an address for a sub-

2

routine already available, the address table being accessible by the program for locating sub-routines for access when required, whereby decryption of a further copy of the sub-routine is not required.

32. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein the decryption routine is operable to discriminate between different versions of a sub-routine and to decrypt an encrypted ~~version of the~~ copy of a sub-routine in the event that ~~only a different~~ the version ~~is~~ of the encrypted sub-routine differs from the version of the sub-routine available within the system.

33. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein the executable application further incorporates an encrypted copy of the program, the decryption routine being operable to decrypt the encrypted copy of the program into an executable form.

34. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein the decryption routine is operable to decrypt the encrypted copy of the program into an executable form in the event that an unencrypted copy of the program contained within the executable application is detected as being corrupt.

35. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein encryption and decryption include or consist of compression or decompression techniques.

36. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising processing means operable to execute software, and a computer readable medium according to claim 27, wherein the processing means is operable under control of said executable application to execute said program and to ~~decrypt said encrypted sub-~~

3

~~routines in to an executable form,~~ execute said decryption
routine, at least when access to the sub-routines is required by
the program.

37. (Previously Presented) A computer system operable to
execute an executable application, the system including:
first store means containing computer readable code
representing the executable application;
second store means containing computer readable code
representing one or more sub-routines; and
loading means operable to load the code of the executable
application for execution,
the executable application comprising:
a program which requires access to one or more sub-
routines during execution,
the sub-routines required by the program in encrypted
form;
identifying means operable to identify the sub-
routines required by the program during execution thereof; and
second loading means operable to load from the second
store means the sub-routines identified by the identifying means
and to decrypt and load one or more encrypted sub-routines in
the event that sub-routines identified by the identifying means
are not contained in the second store means.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein
the identifying means and second loading means are operated on
each occasion that execution of the program is initiated,
whereby to make the sub-routines available on each occasion.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein
the second loading means makes an entry in an address table to
identify the location of a sub-routine which has been made
available, the address table being accessible by the program for

4

locating sub-routines for access when required.

40. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 37, wherein the
second loading means is operable to discriminate between
different versions of a sub-routine and to decrypt an encrypted
~~version of the~~ copy of a sub-routine in the event that the
version of the encrypted sub-routine differs from the version of
the sub-routine contained in the second store ~~means is a
different version.~~ means.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein
the first store means further contains computer readable code
representing the program in encrypted form, and the second
loading means is operable to decrypt and load the encrypted copy
of the program in the event that the unencrypted copy of the
program is detected as being corrupt.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein
encryption and decryption include or consist of compression or
decompression techniques.

43. (Currently Amended) A method of installing a piece of
computer software, comprising:
    1. providing an executable application which includes a
program, one or more encrypted sub-routines, and a decryption
routine operable to decrypt the encrypted sub-routines into an
executable form, wherein the program requires access to the sub-
routines during execution and the decryption routine identifies
any sub-routines already installed and available to the program
and decrypts the encrypted sub-routines that are not available
into an executable form at least when access is required by the
program,
    2. installing the executable application,
    3. commencing execution of said program,

5

4. operating the decryption routine to <u>identify any sub-routines already installed and available to the program and to</u> decrypt the encrypted ~~copy of the sub-routines,~~ <u>copies of the sub-routines that are not available,</u> and

5. installing the decrypted copies of the sub-routines for access by said program.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, wherein the steps of ~~decrypting~~ <u>operating the decryption routine</u> and installing <u>the decrypted copies</u> are executed on each occasion that the program is required to be executed.

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~45,~~ <u>43,</u> wherein the step of identifying sub-routines already available includes discriminating between different versions of a sub-routine, whereby ~~to decrypt an encrypted version in the event that only a different version is already available.~~ <u>an encrypted copy of a sub-routine is decrypted in the event that the version of the sub-routine already available is different to the version of the encrypted sub-routine.</u>

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the executable application further includes an encrypted copy of the said program, and the method further comprises the step of assessing said program for corruption, and decrypting and installing the encrypted copy of said program for use in the event that corruption is detected.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein encryption and decryption includes or consists of compression or decompression techniques.

49. (New) A computer readable medium having an executable application recorded thereon, the executable application comprising a program, one or more encrypted sub-routines, and a decryption routine, wherein the program is executed in response to execution of the executable application, the program requires access to the sub-routines during execution, and the decryption routine is operable to decrypt the encrypted sub-routines into an executable form at least when access to the sub-routines is required by the program, and wherein the one or more sub-routines are shared sub-routines that may be accessed by a further program when decrypted.

50. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 49, wherein the decryption routine makes an entry in an address table to identify the location of a sub-routine decrypted by the decryption routine, the address table being accessible by the program and the further program for locating sub-routines for access when required.